THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE DEPARTMENT OF PERSONNEL AND TRAINING AND DEPARTMENT OF PENSIONS AND PENSIONERS' WELFARE OF THE MINISTRY OF PERSONNEL, PUBLIC GRIEVANCES AND PENSIONS (SHRIMATI VASUNDHARA RAJE): (a) to (d) The Central Vigilance Commissioner had addressed the Indian Merchants Chamber, Navi Mumbai, on 30th June, 2000 on the subject "Role of Law-Makers in Promoting Corruption-Free Government". While making it clear that jurisdiction of the Central Vigilance Commission (CVC) *did not* extend to Judiciary and Legislature, he highlighted the role of law makers for a corruption free Government including •greater transparency in its functioning.

The Government is fully alive to the need to provide clean administration and to eradicate the malady of corruption at all levels of public services. A three-pronged strategy of Surveillance, Prevention and Punitive/Deterrent action is followed by the Government in this regard. However, the drive against corruption in public services to check mal-practices in administration is a continuing process. The policies formulated in this regard are modified from time to time in order to make them more effective and responsive to the changing environment. The recent major steps initiated by the Government in this regard, inter-alia, include introduction of the 'Central Vigilance Commission Bill, 1999* for conferring statutory status on the Commission and 'Freedom of Information Bill 2000[1] to make Government more transparent and accountable to the public.

Persons benefited from KVIC

† *66. SHRI MANOHAR KANT DHYANI: Will the Minister of SMALL SCALE INDUSTRIES AND AGRO AND RURAL INDUSTRIES be pleased to refer to answer to Unstarred Question 3060 given in the Rajya Sabha on 29th April, 2000 state:—

(a) the relative final and actual position to the targets for the years 1999-2000 and 2000-2001; and

(b)the number of persons and villages benefited, so far, in these

† OrigjnaI notice of the question was received in Hindi.

four years in the hilly areas of Uttar Pradesh alongwith the monthly income of such persons who are treated as employed?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF SMALL SCALE INDUSTRIES AND AGRO AND RURAL INDUSTRIES (SHRIMATI VASUNDHRA RAJE): (a) Against a target of 11.00 Lakhs, 10.87 Lakhs cumulative employment were created upto the year 1999-2000. Since the year 2000-2001 is yet to be over, achievement for the year 2000-2001 can not be given at this stage.

(b) Against a target of 45000 employment till 1999-2000, a total of 39776 employments have been created in 2463 villages till 31.03.2000. Information regarding monthly income of beneficiaries is not maintained.

Funds for Drought Victims of Kutch

† *67. SHRI ANIL SHARMA: Will the Minister of AGRICULTURE be pleased to state:

(a) what is the Government's reaction towards the news published under the title "Kutchh ke sukha piriton ke liye Kendra se bheji gayi sahayata rashi ka koi ata pata nahi" in the Punjab Kesri dated 18th June, 2000;

(b) whether any inquiry has been conducted in this regard;

(c) if so, the details thereof alongwith the action taken against the persons who are involved in such a scam; and

(d) if no inquiry has been conducted in this regard, the reasons therefor?

THE MINISTER OF AGRICULTURE (SHRI NITISH KUMAR): (a) to (d) It is primarily the responsibility of the Government of the State to undertake necessary relief measures and distribution of relief assistance, in the wake of natural calamities. The Government of Gujarat has informed that they had constituted an Empowered Cabinet Sub-committee to decide policy issues. Likewise, District Level Committees for scarcity were also consituted for the

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